



FLICKR/YASH MORI

Black Lives Matter activists interrupted Senator Bernie Sanders' speech at the 2015 Netroots Nation conference to force him to address their concerns.

“WITHOUT DISRUPTION THERE IS NO PROGRESS”

ACTIVISTS SHAPE THE
CONVERSATION ON THE
CAMPAIGN TRAIL

By SOPHIA ROTHMAN, age 12



On March 11, a rally planned by Donald Trump on the campus of the University of Illinois at Chicago was canceled because of protests from black, Muslim and Latino student activists. Hundreds of demonstrators showed up at the arena before Trump arrived, causing him to cancel his appearance. Though Trump had recently encouraged his supporters to beat up protesters, after several fights broke out on the campus he referred to the protesters as “thugs” and “bad dudes.” He also said he would pay the legal fees of a Trump supporter who got arrested for sucker-punching an African-American protester.

“I’m protesting because I’m black and Mexican, and I’m not sure where he wants to deport me to, but I deal with racism daily in Chicago, and I’ve had enough,” Maria Hernandez, a 25-year-old activist, told CNN.

Activists of color have been getting involved in many ways during this year’s presidential campaign, from interrupting rallies to hosting voter registration drives.

At a private fundraiser in February, two Black Lives Matter activists confronted Hillary Clinton about a comment she had made in 1996 about mass **incarceration** and the black community. They were escorted out by Secret Service agents. She later apologized for using the term “superpredators.” “Looking back, I shouldn’t have used those words, and I wouldn’t use them today,” she announced.

In Phoenix in July 2015, Black Lives Matter staged a protest at a Democratic rally, demanding that the candidates list the names of black people who had recently died at the hands of the police. The next day, they received their answer from Bernie Sanders at a rally in Houston when he listed names during his speech.

“I think it’s really wonderful that Black Lives Matter activists are participating in this electoral period in this way, forcing candidates to

speaking on issues about which they might not speak,” said author, activist and scholar Angela Davis.

Black Lives Matter as a whole has decided not to endorse a candidate. “It’s too early in the development

of the network [...] to rally around anyone in particular who hasn’t demonstrated that they feel accountable to the Black Lives Matter movement or network,” said Alicia Garza, one of its founders.

Activists are also hoping to impact the election by getting more people of color to register to vote. The National Partnership for New Americans plans to assist 1 million immigrants in applying for American citizenship, and then register them to vote. Latinos generally have a lower voter turnout even though they are the second-largest racial or ethnic group in the country, but activists hope voters will be driven by Trump’s anti-immigrant positions to head to the polls this November.

Muslim groups including the Council on American-Islamic Relations have also planned to register a total of 1 million new voters by Election Day.

“As a Muslim, I feel threatened,” Salim Jaffer, a gastroenterologist living in Lansing, MI, told Religion News Service. “It’s as if someone is trying to take away my civil rights. Think about it. Donald Trump thinks we should stop immigration of Muslims coming into this country.”

As the election gets closer, activists say they will continue to disrupt rallies and put pressure on the candidates in order to be heard.

“Without disruption there is no progress,” said Patrisse Cullors, a Black Lives Matter leader.

Incarceration: Putting people in prison.



FLICKR/KIM BOST

In the face of Donald Trump’s anti-immigrant positions, activists hope to drive Latino voters to the polls this November.



JOE BRUSKY/FLICKR

In November 2015, low-wage workers with the Fight for \$15 campaign joined Black Lives Matter activists in the streets. Their hope has been to make their struggle a priority for the 2016 presidential candidates.



Meet... Roan from the Netherlands

Name: Roan Vanja Molenkamp

Age: 11

Lives in: The Hague, Netherlands

Languages Spoken: Dutch (and a little bit of French and English at school)

Favorite Food: Hamburgers

Hobbies: Going outside and playing sports (football or soccer) or going on the computer

Place you would most love to visit: New York City

Favorite Animal: Cheetah

Favorite School Subject: Gym/sports

How He Gets to School: By bike or scooter

Favorite Movie: Star Wars

The Netherlands at a Glance



Official Country Name: The Netherlands

Population: 16,318,199 (2014)

Fun Facts:

- Dutch people are the tallest in the world (average height of 72.4 inches for men and 67 inches for women).
- The Dutch East India Company, founded in 1602, controlled trade across many port cities around the world. Its influence led the Dutch to colonize present-day Indonesia and South Africa.
- There are three times as many bicycles as there are cars in the Netherlands.
- The Netherlands is the largest exporter of cheese in the world, with a dairy industry turning over around €7 billion.
- The Netherlands has the highest population density in Europe.

By KAILA DUNN, age 12



11.5 million

The number of leaked documents that make up the Panama Papers, which list names of wealthy individuals who have hidden their wealth in places where they can escape paying taxes. Source: Mossack Fonseca

nation&world

Refugee Team at 2016 Summer Olympics

By ELEANOR HEDGES DUROY, age 13



Imagine losing everything in a war that killed more than 1.5 million people. Once you escape, you spend years at United Nations Refugee Camp Kakuma in Kenya. You have no source of income and no way to leave.

"I'm in a voluntary prison," Elias Wondimu, an Ethiopian refugee at Camp Kakuma, told *Fair Observer*. "I was young when I arrived here 14 years ago."

For a handful of refugee athletes, this year's summer Olympics will offer a chance to build a new life. In February 2016, the International Olympic Committee (IOC) announced that a team of Refugee Olympic Athletes (ROA) will join the 2016 Summer Olympics in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Kenyan Olympic runner Tegla Loroupe traveled to



ONU BRASIL

Syrian swimmer Yusra Mardini, 18, hopes to be part of the small team of Refugee Olympic Athletes that will compete at the 2016 Summer Olympics in Rio de Janeiro.

Camp Kakuma to hold tryouts for the new Olympic team, which will include between five and 10 athletes. Thomas Bach, IOC president, told the *Guardian*, "Having no national team to belong to . . . these refugee athletes will be welcomed to the Olympic Games with the Olympic flag and with the Olympic Anthem." Refugee Olympic hopefuls like swimmer Yusra Mardini, who fled

the Syrian war and swam part of the way to the shores of Greece, and taekwondo competitor Raheleh Asemani, who left Iran, are now receiving professional training in safer countries.

While Team ROA draws attention to global refugees, the Olympics is creating displaced people within Brazil. Homes of some Rio de Janeiro residents are being demolished and replaced by Olympic buildings. Professor Orlando Santos Jr. says, "[T]he people who are moved live on the margins. If they are uprooted from their networks that allow them to survive, it actually makes them worse off, not better."

FBI Tries to Take Bite Out of Apple

By CARLINE BOSTON, age 11



The U.S. Senate is writing a bill that could force technology companies to hack encrypted devices in response to a court order.

This bill came about after Syed Rizwan Farook and his wife Tashfeen Malik opened fire at the Inland Regional Center in San Bernardino, CA, on December 2, 2015, fatally shooting 14 people and injuring 21 others. The couple was ultimately killed in a shootout, but their iPhone 5c was recovered. The government obtained a subpoena to push Apple to unlock the device, which the tech giant appealed.

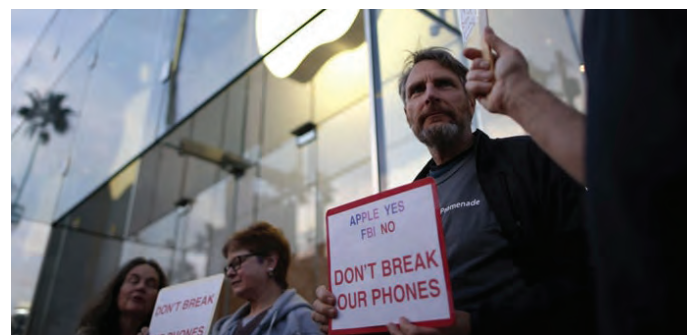
The FBI will continue to fight Apple to unlock its iPhones despite finding an alternative way to unlock the phone in the San Bernardino case.

This case is just one of about a dozen in which the government has requested Apple's help since September 2015. Each pits the issues of constitutional rights and national security against each other.

"It's very worrisome. The government has gone too far," said Eric Freedman, professor of constitutional law at Hofstra University, referring to the government trying to make Apple hack the devices for them. "The problem with the government is there is no law that permits them to do this."

"I think Apple is being very selfish in not helping the government in this case against terrorism," Manuel Gomez, president of MG Securities and a former FBI special agent, said. "[I]t's about being able to detect and deter future attacks. It's about keeping people safe."

An Apple lawyer said while the company is disappointed, it is not surprised the government has decided



FLICKR / IPHONEDIGITAL

Earlier this year, protesters gathered outside Apple stores across the country to rally against the FBI's attempts to hack into iPhones.

to continue pursuing the issue. And in a letter to customers, the tech giant claims any order to create a backdoor in its operating systems "would undermine the very freedom and liberty our government is meant to protect."

Encrypted: Describes information or data that has been converted into a code to prevent unauthorized access.

Subpoena: A document ordering a person to come to court.

Deter: Prevent from happening.

Undermine: Threaten, damage or weaken.

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IndyKids is a free newspaper, website and teaching tool that aims to inform children on current news and world events from a progressive perspective and to inspire in children a passion for social justice and learning. IndyKids is funded through donations and grants.

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HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED?

Just contact *IndyKids*! Adults and kids can write articles, take photos, contribute artwork and help distribute the paper.

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Where in the World?

All the places listed below are mentioned in this issue. Can you match them with their general location on the world map at right? Answers are at the bottom of this page.

- | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| a) Great Barrier Reef ____ | e) Sweden ____ |
| b) The Netherlands ____ | f) Portland, OR, U.S.A. ____ |
| c) Queens, NY, U.S.A. ____ | g) Rio de Janeiro, Brazil ____ |
| d) Chicago, IL, U.S.A. ____ | h) Syria ____ |



Justice Department Defends the Poor

By EVANGELINE COMEAU-KIRSCHNER, age 10



On March 14, Vanita Gupta and Lisa Foster, members of the U.S. Department of Justice, sent a letter to local court systems in the United States saying it's unconstitutional that they put poor defendants in jail because they can't afford to pay fines and fees. "[A] motorist who is arrested for driving with a suspended license may be told that the penalty for the citation is \$300 and that a court date will be scheduled only upon the completion of a \$300 payment," they wrote in the letter. If they cannot pay, they may face jail time. This traps an already struggling population into a continuous cycle of debt.

The Obama administration held a meeting in December with judges, court administrators and prosecutors about how these fines and fees are determined. There were concerns that the local courts were punishing poor people. *The Washington Post* reported on an example of this, where the Justice Department accused officers in Ferguson, MO, of violating citizens' civil rights by issuing more fines to make more money for the city.

"The use of arrest warrants as a means of debt collection, rather than in response to public safety needs, creates unnecessary risk that individuals' constitutional



EDWARD CORPUZ

State and local courts in the United States have increasingly put poor people in jail for not being able to pay off legal fees.

rights will be violated," Gupta and Foster said in the letter. In December 2015, Attorney General Loretta E. Lynch stated, "When bail is set unreasonably high, people are behind bars only because they are poor."

A grant program has been created to help state, local or tribal **jurisdictions** that want to try out strategies that improve the current court responses to unpaid fees. Four grants in the amount of \$500,000 are currently available.

Jurisdiction: The territory over which certain authorities can be used.

Here Comes Generation Z

By SAUL FERHOLT-KAHN, age 10



A report from the 2015 study by JWTIG, a trend research company, shows that Generation Z (GenZ) is more open-minded and has more progressive values than millennials, especially around gender and sexuality.

Forty-eight percent of GenZs who completed the study, ages 12 to 19, identify as exclusively **heterosexual**—a decline of 17 percent from millennials, people currently aged 21 to 34. GenZs are people who were born from the late 1990s to now. According to the report, GenZs do not think that gender or sexuality defines a person as much as it has in the past.

GenZs are internet- and social media-savvy, and they use that to connect with others, which opens the door to exploring and understanding others and their own identities. **Agender** writer Tyler Ford, whose main audience is teens, told *Vice* magazine: "**Marginalized** folks are building communities and platforms online, and are talking about their everyday experiences on public forums. I can't tell you how many times someone has written something and I think, *Oh my God, that's a real thing? That's not just me? There's a name for this?*"

GenZs' awareness and acceptance of a wide range of gender identities makes them more likely to be advocates, too. Seventy percent of GenZs feel that



ANEMONEPROJECTORS (WIKIMEDIA COMMONS)

Queer Youth Network parades at Pride London. A new study shows that youth today are more open-minded about issues of gender and sexuality.

access to gender neutral bathrooms in public spaces is important.

"I think young people can more easily see a larger spectrum of identities," Madeleine, 16, who identifies as **pansexual** and agender, told *Vice*. "They're more willing to accept people without questioning them."

Heterosexual: A person who is attracted to people of the opposite sex.

Agender: A person without a gender.

Marginalized: Treat something or someone as insignificant or peripheral.

Pansexual: Not limited in sexual choice with regard to biological sex, gender or gender identity.

newsbriefs



FLICKR/BILL ALLREDGE

Lawsuit Challenges No-Fly List



By MARIANNE NACANAYNAY, age 13

The Michigan chapter of the Council on American-Islamic Relations, a Muslim civil rights group, has filed a class-action lawsuit (which acts on behalf of a large group instead of just an individual) against the U.S. government's no-fly list. The lawsuit represents thousands who were wrongly put on the Transportation Security Administration's list of people suspected as terrorists, stopping innocent Muslim Americans from boarding planes, opening bank accounts and enrolling in certain secondary schools. FBI monitoring is harsher in communities with a strong Muslim presence, and many Muslims have been placed on the list, including a seven-month-old baby. Once you are on the no-fly list there is no way to challenge it or get your name off.



FLICKR/THE ALL-NIGHT IMAGES

Double Win for the Fight for \$15



By HOPE MENACHERY, age 10

In April, New York Governor Andrew M. Cuomo and California Governor Jerry Brown both signed bills to raise the minimum wage to \$15 per hour in New York state and California. California will also give workers 12 weeks of fully paid family leave, while New York workers get six weeks. The bills were signed into law after years of demonstrations and organizing efforts by the Fight for \$15 movement. Two weeks later, protesters were back in the street, demanding a \$15 minimum wage for all Americans. The new minimum wages can potentially take six years to go into effect.



How the Rich Hide Money Offshore



By MARIANNE NACANAYNAY, age 13

In April 2016, 11.5 million documents (the Panama Papers) were leaked to the German newspaper *Süddeutsche Zeitung*, unveiling thousands of offshore bank accounts set up by wealthy individuals around the world, including some world leaders. Offshore bank accounts are known for being used to evade taxes. However, it's unclear whether the actions of those named in the Panama Papers are illegal. The leak is the largest in history, spanning 40 years: 1977 to 2015.

SCALES of JUSTICE AFTER JUSTICE SCALIA

How the Supreme Court Works



By CARA CHANG, age 12

The United States Supreme Court is the highest court in the country. It is part of the judicial branch. The nine justices agree to consider 80 to 150 cases each year, out of approximately 7,000 requests. The cases the Supreme Court hears are **appeals** from lower courts or state Supreme Courts, and its decisions are final. Only a constitutional amendment or a later Supreme Court judgment can modify the court's decisions. The U.S. Supreme Court decides on laws that affect people's lives.

In order to become a U.S. Supreme Court justice, the president has to nominate you, then the Senate has to vote in order for you to be on the bench. Usually this happens when a previous justice passes away or retires. There are no special qualifications, like age, profession or citizenship, to be a justice. Anyone can be chosen.



ELVERT BARNES

In June 2015, the Supreme Court ruled in favor of same-sex marriage. Supreme Court decisions often reflect the way our society changes over time. Until 1967, interracial marriage was illegal in many states.

Justice for Life? The Debate over Supreme Court Justice Term Limits



By MIA CHANG, age 12

Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia was the longest-serving justice on the current U.S. Supreme Court. He served for more than 29 years.

Term limits apply to many government jobs, including the president, governors in some states and some mayors. But today, U.S. Supreme Court justices do not have term limits. In other words, justices can serve for their whole lives. The only way a justice can be removed is if Congress **impeaches** them.

Many people think Supreme Court justices should have term limits. A Reuters/Ipsos poll reported that two-thirds of Americans support the idea that justices should have a 10-year term limit.

Some think term limits would help the court reflect the way our society changes over time. In June 2015, the Supreme Court ruled in favor of same-sex marriage in a decision that mattered to many people. Bringing in new judges more often would give old judges new perspectives when they are debating on cases.

Other people think term limits would let both the Democratic and Republican parties have their say by allowing presidents to make nominations more often.

Illustration by IVETTE SALOM • Introduction by KARL MARTINEZ, age 10



On February 13, 79-year-old Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia died. Scalia served as one of the nine judges on the United States Supreme Court bench for nearly three decades. He left a big impact on American law.

To replace Scalia, President Obama nominated Merrick Garland, the chief judge from the District of Columbia Circuit. His nomination has been **controversial**, and the Republicans want to stop him from being considered.

Why is the future of the Supreme Court important? How will the Supreme Court fill the hole on the bench? What will happen now?



The current U.S. Supreme Court justices on the steps of the Supreme Court Building. Left to right (from most liberal to least liberal):

Elena Kagan, Sonia Sotomayor, Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Stephen G. Breyer, Anthony M. Kennedy, John G. Roberts, Clarence Thomas and Samuel A. Alito.

With Justice Antonin Scalia's death, there are now eight U.S. Supreme Court justices. With only eight justices, some Supreme Court decisions would lead to a 4-4 tie. President Obama has nominated Merrick Garland to take Scalia's place. But first Garland must be approved by the Senate. Republicans say they will vote him down. Who will be the ninth Supreme Court justice? (Source: Lee Epstein, Washington University in St. Louis)

What Antonin Scalia Left Behind



By ALICE CHEKUNOVA, age 11

Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia had a significant impact on Supreme Court decisions since his appointment in 1986. Scalia was an "originalist," who believed in interpreting the Constitution as those living at the time it was drafted would have understood it. As legal analyst Jeffrey Toobin writes, originalism leads to more conservative politics. "It amounts to no protection for abortion rights, no recognition of gay rights, and no sanction for affirmative action or protective legislation to benefit racial minorities and women."

Learn about three important cases that were ruled in close 5-4 outcomes, in which Scalia voted in the majority:

***Glossip v. Gross*, 2015**

The court decided that lethal injection did not violate the Eighth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution, which prohibits cruel and unusual punishment. Lethal injection remains a widely used form of execution.

***Shelby County v. Holder*, 2013**

The court ruled that states with a history of discrimination can change voting laws without federal approval. The decision weakened the Voting Rights Act of 1965, which was put in place to protect against racial discrimination in voting.

***Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission*, 2010**

The court ruled that corporations have First Amendment free speech rights, like people. And so, like people, businesses or unions can donate an unlimited amount of money indirectly to political campaigns.



JOE BRUSKY

Protesters outside the Milwaukee County Courthouse demand that corporations' money should not influence politicians. In 2010, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that corporations can donate unlimited funds to political campaigns.

From Liberal to Conservative: Supreme Court Justices Today



By MADISON ROBERTS, age 12

The Supreme Court is usually made up of nine justices, but due to the death of Antonin Scalia, it is currently one justice short. The president is responsible for choosing a replacement that the U.S. Senate must approve. Republicans are currently the majority party in the Senate and have vowed to oppose President Obama's nominee in his final year in office. Obama chose Merrick Garland because he is bipartisan, in hopes that the Senate would accept his nomination.

A person with bipartisan views wants to find common ground between the two political parties. A liberal believes in using government institutions to decrease inequality and is open to doing away with traditional values. A conservative believes in traditional American values, maintaining the status quo, and that individuals know what is best for people.

Supreme Court justices like Stephen G. Breyer and Anthony M. Kennedy are not fully conservative or liberal; they agree with a few thoughts from both sides. Elena Kagan, Sonia Sotomayor and Ruth Bader Ginsburg are Supreme Court justices who fully support liberal ideas, while Samuel A. Alito, Clarence Thomas and John G. Roberts are the Supreme Court justices who are extremely conservative.

Glossary of Terms

Appeals:

Legal proceedings by which cases are brought before a higher court to review the decision of a lower court.

Controversial:

Debatable; giving rise to public disagreement.

Impeach:

To charge someone who works in a public office with misconduct.



Flickr/ECO CAFE PHUKET

Bleached Out



By RIDA ALI, age 12

Since October 2015, Australia's National Coral Bleaching Task Force found that 2,485 miles of coral in the northern parts of Australia's Great Barrier Reef have been experiencing the worst bleaching in history. Coral bleaching happens when coral is exposed to water that is warmer than average, causing its pigment to fade. Bleaching can be fatal to corals. A survey conducted by Terry Hughes, who set up the task force, shows that 93 percent of the 911 reefs they studied have shown severe bleaching. Healthy corals are important because they support many marine species such as fish and dolphins.



GENWORTH

Old Age Up Your Sleeve



By ELIAH TAPIA, age 10

Bran Ferren is the inventor of a suit that makes you feel old. The suit can change the way you feel in your body. For instance, it can make your vision blur so you experience how the elderly see at their age. The suit itself weighs 40 pounds, which makes it hard or even impossible to walk with it on. Ferren wanted to open up a dialogue on issues and struggles that the elderly community experiences. The suit is on exhibit at the Liberty Science Center in Jersey City.



Driverless Trucks Cross Europe



By MARIANNE NACANAYNAY, age 13

The European Truck Platooning Challenge asked automobile manufacturers Daimler, DEF, Iveco, MAN, Scania and Volvo to allow dozens of self-driving trucks to platoon, or drive collectively, through Europe. Platooning allows trucks to save fuel and money. Beginning in Sweden, traveling through Germany and Belgium, and ending in the Netherlands, the trucks communicated via a wireless signal and were programmed to be well aware of traffic and road hazards.

culture&activism

Making Waves in Queens

By SARAH CATE WOLFSON, age 11



This fall, a group of **transgender** Latina women will open a worker-owned beauty salon in Queens. "We came up with the idea because of all the discrimination our community goes through when looking for a job," Arely Vazquez, one of the co-founders, told MSNBC. According to the National Center for Transgender Equality, "More than one in four transgender people have lost a job due to bias, and more than three-fourths have experienced some form of workplace discrimination." With the help of the nonprofit organization Make the Road New York, these women are pioneering a stable and dignified work environment that protects their safety.

One of the salon's co-creators, who goes by "M," chose to use her last initial for her name because she didn't feel safe being openly transgender at her previous job. Unlike other trans women she knows who have been denied work, she has been able to find work in beauty salons, but only if she works as a man. Daniel Puerto, of Make the Road New York, said the women "got immediately excited by the idea of creating a business where they would be the sole owners, where there wouldn't be any bosses." As part of a worker cooperative, these women will be their own bosses and will share the profits equally between all members.



VALERIE DEKIMPE

A group of transgender Latina women take beauty classes to prepare to open a worker-owned beauty salon in Queens this fall.

As they prepare to open the salon in the fall of 2016, the women have been taking beauty classes in Woodside, Queens, to help them train. Arely González, another founder, says, "This is why we are here, to fight for a better future for ourselves, for a better world for our transgender community—and for future generations, too."

Transgender: Describes a person whose gender identity differs from the sex they were assigned at birth. For example, a person designated male at birth who identifies as a woman.

Have Some Respect... for Chickens

By ADEDAYO PERKOVICH, age 12



Do you like chickens? Do you like eating chicken? You may have seen labels such as "cage-free" or "free-range" on egg cartons, but what do those labels really mean? It might surprise you to know that chickens are often abused and mistreated because they don't have proper government protection. International Respect for Chickens Month brings attention to these issues.

Celebrated in May, International Respect for Chickens Day began in 2005 and was created by the animal-rights organization United Poultry Concerns as a day "to celebrate chickens throughout the world." It was then expanded to a whole month.

Chickens are not protected under the Humane Slaughter Act, which was passed to prevent the unnecessary suffering of certain livestock during slaughter. Many chickens are raised in dirty sheds with little time outdoors. As for their eggs, according to The Humane Society of the United States, the "cage-free," "free-range," "pasture-raised" and "certified organic" labels on egg cartons don't mean that farms or factories need to provide their chickens with outdoor access or to prohibit practices such as beak-cutting.

The Department of Agriculture could include poultry on the list of livestock under the Humane Slaughter Act, explains advocate Cynthia Hodge, but so far it has not taken action to defend these birds. That's one of the things that International Respect for Chickens Month hopes to change.



BRYEN/Flickr

May is International Respect for Chickens Month. Unlike other livestock, chickens are not protected by the government from unnecessary suffering.

Meet IndyKids Teen Reporter, Yuuki Real



By SOPHIA ROTHMAN, age 12



Sophia Rothman: What inspired you to write for *IndyKids*?

Yuuki Real: My mom found out about *IndyKids* online and recommended I write for it, saying it would be a great opportunity to improve my writing. So I did. Over time, I developed an interest in environmental conservation and social justice.

What's your favorite subject in school and why?

Spanish is pretty good. The teacher expects more from us than in previous years, but the material is a lot more in-depth.

If you could pick one topic to write about right now, what would it be and why?

I guess the two-party democratic system in the United

States. I feel like a lot of our problems stem from the fact that the Democrats and Republicans are the only political parties that currently have a realistic chance of winning a presidential election.

How do you feel after seeing a movie based on a book you already read? Would you rather read a book or watch the movie based on it?

I've never done that, but from what I've heard, movies tend to clash with people's own interpretations of their books. I'd rather read a book; it seems easier to revisit later.

What's on your bucket list? If you don't have one, what would you put on it if you did?

Learn to actually play chess.

Someday, you could be a Cartoonist, like Nicole Georges

By ELEANOR HEDGES DUROY, age 13



Nicole Georges is a cartoonist and memoirist based in Portland, OR, whose book, *Calling Dr. Laura*, was nominated for an award at the Angoulême International Comics Festival. This was the very same festival that, earlier in the year, drew strong criticism for refusing to nominate any women for its lifetime achievement award.

Eleanor Hedges Duroy: At what age did you first know that drawing would be a good way to express your ideas?

Nicole Georges: As soon as I could write I drew at the same time. I'd write and draw for other people, or just for myself. I would illustrate poems for people. And then in elementary school, I got a diary and I started keeping track of everything that happened. Drawing was always a part of that.

Where do you get your ideas for your stories?

I get my ideas from life. I do diary comics frequently. So, I'll take notes of everything that's happened for a couple of weeks. Then I go through and see if I see a story in that—if anything was interesting or if anything evolved over those two weeks. If something happens that's horribly uncomfortable, now I know that even if it's terrible in the moment, if someone can relate to it, it might make a good comic.

What types of stories do you feel are not being told today that should be recognized on a larger scale, like at an international comics festival?

There's a lot! I think we don't see gay people enough in comics. I don't see enough comics by people of color or fat people very much. There are a few, but I would like to see more in mainstream comics.

How does activism play into your work?

Ever since I was in middle school I was an activist of some sort. In my work I try to create characters that people can feel emotionally attached to. So, if somebody doesn't have any gay friends, and they have to vote on something that affects gay people, maybe something I wrote about cultivated empathy in them, and they'll think about that when they vote. Or maybe if I write a story about being kind to animals, they'll see how easy it is to be kind to animals. That's my hope.

Do you have any advice for kids who want to become activists and cartoonists?

If you don't see yourself reflected in the media you're presented—if you don't see yourself in the TV shows that you watch, or in magazines or books you read—if you don't see people with bodies that look like yours, or skin colors that look like yours, or economic situations like yours, I think that you should make your own media.



COURTESY NICOLE GEORGES

I know that's a big task. And there might not be anything like it, and that's OK. You'll find that there are other people like you who are just waiting to read a comic or magazine like yours.

Recycling for a Bot-ter World

By AUDREN HEDGES DUROY, age 10



My First Lego League (FLL) team, the Mindstorm Wizards (ages 9-13), was prepared with our wizard hats and staves for the moment of truth. Would months of robot programming work? With excited tension, a referee wearing a purple stuffed-squid hat counted down: "3-2-1 Lego!!!"

FLL is a program to get girls and boys interested in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM). On our team there are the same number of boys and girls. There is a fairly equal mix between boys and girls at the competition, too.

Using sensors, motors and Lego pieces, teams build and program robots to complete missions. Teams also research solutions to real-world problems. This year's theme was Trash Trek.

Robots navigated challenges on the 8'x4' surface, removed "plastic bags" from

oceans, rescued Lego animals and turned waste into "compost." Our robot didn't do everything, but we still won awards.

Trash is an important social justice issue, since the environment belongs to everyone. Reducing waste is the best solution, but once you have the trash, recycling or reusing it is the next best thing.

My team reduced our schools' paper waste, while my sister's team, the Tesseracts, worked to recycle food service industry gloves.

"FLL is working as a team to make and meet goals while doing it in a fun, enjoyable way," said my teammate Thomas Weis. "It is also about helping others on our team and other teams to get better." Being on an FLL team is hard work, but programming skills and research projects will help us make the world a better place.



COURTESY TANYA HEDGES DUROY

Team Mindstorm Wizards built a robot out of sensors, motors and Lego pieces that helped reduce their school's paper waste. From left to right: Nathan Miller, Coach Thomas Miller, Kate Miller, Thomas Weis, Becky Miller, Marie Weis and Audren Hedges Duroy



RECIPE: NO-BAKE VEGAN PEANUT BUTTER BALLS

By ELIAH TAPIA, age 10

These would make a great nutritious snack since they are so much healthier than a candy bar. Plus, they taste great!

Ingredients:

- 1/2 cup peanut butter
- 1/2 cup rolled oats
- 1/4 cup ground flax seeds
- 1/4 cup dried coconut, shredded
- 1 tablespoon maple syrup
- 1/8 cup sunflower seeds



BOBBI BOWERS/FICKR

Directions:

- 1) Mix all ingredients, except the coconut, together in a bowl.
- 2) With hands, roll into small balls, about the size of a walnut.
- 3) Coat each ball in coconut.
- 4) Refrigerate for a few hours in tightly covered container.



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GETTING WILD WITH THE CHICKEN



By ADEDAYO PERKOVICH, age 12

The chicken, *Gallus gallus domesticus*, is a bird that is native to Asia, but can be found all over the world. Chickens have survived for about 8,000 years. They are the closest living relative to the T. Rex, and under the right conditions, these omnivores (chickens eat seeds, bugs, also small mice and lizards) can live for eight to 20 years.

Did you know?

- Scientists have discovered that chickens have 25-30 different communication calls.
- The eggs of adult female chickens (hens) contain every essential protein, mineral and vitamin.
- There are more chickens than any other species of bird.
- In 2004, the chicken was the first bird to have its genome sequenced.
- A fresh chicken egg will sink, but a stale one will float.
- The fear of chickens is called alektorophobia.
- NASA is testing the use of biofuel made from chicken fat as an eco-friendly alternative to jet fuel.
- National Dance Like a Chicken Day is May 15.



FLICKR/ SALLY CROSTHWAITE

WORD SEARCH PUZZLE

By ELIAH TAPIA, age 10



Find key words from the May/June 2016 *IndyKids* issue!

MAJESTIC

INTUITIVENESS

IMPEACHMENT

DIVERSITY

OPPRESSION

INTELLECTUAL

NOMINATE



WHO AM I?



By ELIAH TAPIA, age 10



ALLAN WARREN/WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

1. I was born on August 2, 1924, in Harlem, New York City, as the grandson of a slave.
2. I was an African-American essayist, playwright and novelist.
3. I went to DeWitt Clinton High School in the Bronx, but I couldn't attend college because I had to take care of my nine siblings.
4. By the time I was 14 years old, I became interested in writing and was spending most of my time in the library.
5. I followed my stepfather's footsteps and became a preacher during my teen years. That is what started me on the road to becoming a writer.
6. When I was 18, I had to leave home and get a job with the New Jersey Railroad.
7. In 1948, at the age of 24, I left for Paris, wanting to get away so I could write about the United States with some distance.
8. I went to a small village in Switzerland to finish my first novel, *Go Tell It on the Mountain*. It was a memoir about growing up in Harlem. It was published in 1963.
9. Over the next 10 years I moved from Paris to New York to Istanbul, writing about what were then considered taboo themes—like homosexuality and interracial relationships. *Nobody Knows My Name* (a collection of essays) and *Another Country* (a novel) became my best-sellers.
10. When I died on December 1, 1987, in Saint-Paul-de-Vence, France, I had become an important spokesperson for equality.

ANSWER: James Baldwin